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COUNTRY CzechoslovakiaREPORT NO. 25X1TOPIC Paratroopers' School in Straz Pod RalskemEVALUATION 25X1PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 19 November 1948 to 20 December 1948DATE OBTAINED 25X1DATE PREPARED 14 September 1950REFERENCES 25X1PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 - one sketch on dittoREMARKS 25X1

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1. Admission to the paratroopers' school in Straz Pod Ralskem (O 51/F 95) depended on an examination in sports, a psycho-technical check and a political screening by the Communist Party and the SNB home office of the prospective student.
2. The school, located in the woods between Straz and Lake Kurn, consisted of nine temporary barracks for EM, one temporary barracks for officers, one temporary barracks used as a clothing depot and one guardhouse. The installations for instruction included an obstacle course 3200 meters long; an obstacle course 800 meters long; one installation for difficult jumps; one overhead cableway for jumping from an altitude of 6 meters; one blocked-up instruction Dakota aircraft; one firing range; one instruction room; three dummy houses for training in house-to-house fighting; one railroad track section; one obsolete locomotive and several railroad cars to use for practicing the fixing of demolition charges. \*
3. The obstacle courses included barbed-wire entanglements, water ditches, and other obstacles. There were minimum standards for obstacle runs, for example the 800-meter course had to be taken in 7 minutes.
4. The cableway had individual seats. The student had to operate the release pawl to be dropped to the ground.
5. Firing submachine guns from different positions was practiced at the range.
6. The three dummy houses occupied by dummy soldiers were attacked with hand grenades and then taken in close combat.
7. Each table in the instruction room had a telephone device. Instruction was given in the operation of radio sets, parachutes, etc.

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8. The large airfield which was strongly guarded was near Kurn (O 51/F 94). Parachute jumps were practiced there.

\* Comment. For layout sketch of school see Annex 2.

\*\* Comment. Information on the parachute unit in Straz Pod Ralskem was previously submitted.

The unit was previously designated as battalion. The present report supplies the first data on the location and organization of the school. It confirms another report stating that only preparatory courses for parachutists were held in Straz Pod Ralskem.

It is assumed from the sketch that the school is in a woods, which is entered on maps in the scale 1:100,000, about 2 km west of Straz Pod Ralskem. The recorded airfield is northeast of Kurn and south of Mimon (O 51/F 95). It is usually called to as Mimon airfield. Details on the field were previously submitted.

2 Annexes: 2 -- one sketch on ditto

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